

Message Text

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SUBJECT/ NATO MINISTERIAL: PRESS

TO S/PRS FOR VEST AND EUR/P

1. AS REQUESTED, FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE QUESTIONS LIKELY
TO BE ASKED BY JOURNALISTS DURING SECRETARY KISSINGER'S
BRUSSELS VISIT FOR NATO MINISTERIAL:

2. WHAT BILATERAL MEETINGS ARE YOU HAVING WHILE IN BRUSSELS?
WHAT ARE YOU DISCUSSING IN THESE?

3. WITH THE JACKSON-NUNN AMENDMENT HAVING BECOME LAW, WITH
SECRETARY SCHLESINGER HAVING ANNOUNCED SOME BASE CLOSINGS,
WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE FUTURE OF U.S. FORCE LEVELS IN EUROPE?
DO YOU THINK THE ALLIES WILL BE ABLE TO OFFSET ALL OF THE U.S.
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS LOSS FROM STATIONING TROOPS HERE, OR ARE
SOME REDUCTIONS INEVITABLE?

4. HOW DOES TH U.S. FEEL ABOUT FRENCH MOVES TO BREATHE LIFE
INTO THE WEU BY MAKING IT A PRINCIPAL FORUM FOR EUROPEAN DEFENSE
DISCUSSIONS?
WOULDN'T THIS DETRACT FROM NATO?

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5. IF YOU WERE A SOVIET NEGOTIATOR, OR MAYBE EVEN A EUROPEAN,
WOULDN'T YOU SEE OTHER THREATS TO THE U.S. PRESENCE IN EUROPE
(JACKSON-NUNN, EUROPEAN DISLIKE FOR U.S. ACTIONS IN MID-EAST
WAR AND U.S. RESPONSE, ENERGY CRISIS CAUSING ECONOMIC DECLINE

AND LOWER DEFENSE BUDGETS, ETC.) MOVING MUCH MORE RAPIDLY THAN MBFR, AREN'T THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS BASED ON A PREMISE OF STABILITY IN A SITUATION WHICH IS IN FACT HIGHLY UNSTABLE? WHY SHOULD THE SOVIETS GIVE AWAY ANYTHING IN VIENNA?

6. HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE THE ATMOSPHERE OF US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS NOW? ARE WE UP FROM THE TROUGH OF THE MID-EAST DIPLOMATIC BACKLASH?

7. ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE COOPERATION THE U.S. RECEIVED DURING THE MID-EAST CRISIS FROM ANY COUNTRY EXCEPT PORTUGAL?

8. WILL YOU BE SENDING UNDERSECRETARY DONALDSON TO THE HAGUE WITH THE POWER TO MAKE AN OFFER OF OIL TO THE DUTCH? IS THERE ANY OTHER WAY THAT THE U.S. COULD BE OF ANY REAL HELP TO THE DUTCH?

9. WE'RE COMING TO THE END OF THE YEAR OF EUROPE, AND ATLANTIC RELATIONS SEEM IN WORSE SHAPE THAN THEY WERE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR. DO YOU SEE ANY IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR THE BETTER THAT HAS BEEN PRODUCED BY THE YEAR OF EUROPE? ARE YOU TAKING A BASEBALL MANAGER'S "WAIT TIL NEXT YEAR" APPROACH?

10. WILL YOU BE (WERE YOU) ABLE TO AGREE ON A TEXT FOR THE ATLANTIC DECLARATION? WE'VE SEEN SOME OF THE LEAKED TEXTS AND THEY SEEM TO BE A BUNCH OF PLATITUDES THAT DON'T REALLY GET US ANYWHERE, GENERALITIES THAT ANY OF US COULD HAVE WRITTEN BACK IN APRIL. ARE THERE ELEMENTS THAT WE HAVEN'T SEEN YET?

11. WHAT LASTING EFFECT DO YOU THINK THE MID-EAST WAR AND SUBSEQUENT ANTI-ALLIED RECRIMINATIONS WILL HAVE ON (1) THE WAY THE ALLIANCE OPERATES IN FUTURE SIMILAR CRISES, AND (2) THE ATMOSPHERICS OF NATO, ESPECIALLY THE MINISTERIAL MEETING?

12. WE UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT YOU PERSONALLY RECOMMENDED THE ALERT. WHY WAS THE U.S. UNABLE TO DO BETTER ABOUT NOTIFICATION AND CONSULATIONS? IS IT NOW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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RECOGNIZED IN WASHINGTON THAT SOME MISTAKES WERE MADE ON THIS SCORE; WHAT WILL BE DONE DIFFERENTLY IN THE FUTURE?

13. YOU ONCE SUGGESTED, WHEN YOU WERE A PROFESSOR, THAT THE NATO ALLIANCE WOULDN'T LAST FOREVER, AND YOU HAD SOME VERY SHARP WORDS CONCERNING THE ALLIANCE DURING THE MID-EAST CRISIS (AND EVEN SHARPER COMMENTS WERE DENIED BY YOUR SPOKESMAN). HOW DO YOU SEE THE FUTURE OF THE ALLIANCE? DOES IT HAVE A LOWER PLACE IN YOUR SCALE OF PRIORITIES THAN IT MIGHT HAVE HAD FOR SOME OF YOUR PREDECESSORS?

14. ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE ATTITUDE OF THE EUROPEANS UP

TO NOW ON BURDEN SHARING? ARE YOU DISCUSSING IT, EITHER IN THE
NAC OR IN YOUR BILATERALS?

15. IS THERE ANYTHING LEFT IN CSCE WHICH, IN YOUR VIEW,
WOULD HAVE GENUINE IMPORTANCE FOR EAST-WEST RELATIONS?
DO YOU REALLY EXPECT TO MAKE A BIG DENT IN EASTERN POLICIES
ON THE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND IDEAS?

16. WHAT IS NATO DOING ABOUT THE ENERGY CRISIS, EXCEPT FOR CCMS?

17. (AFTER MEETING) WHERE DO YOU GO FROM HERE ON DEVELOPING THE
ATLANTIC DECLARATIONS? WERE YOU ABLE TO TALK THE EUROPEANS
OUT OF A SEPARATE EUROPE-JAPAN DECLARATION? WAS THERE A CONSENSUS
ON THE SITUATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST?
WHAT IS YOUR IMPRESSION OF NATO MINISTERIAL MEETINGS? DO YOU
SEE THEM AS SOMETHING OF WHICH YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE IMPORTANT
USE IN THE FUTURE?

18. (AFTER MEETING) DID YOU HAVE ANY DISCUSSIONS ON THE
KEFLAVIK BASE? WHAT ARE PROSPECTS?

19. (SUNDAY NIGHT, FOR SPOKESMAN) WHY DO THE QUADRIPARTITE
DINNERS KEEP GOING? IS THERE REALLY THAT MUCH BERLIN BUSINESS TO
DO?

20. BOTH THE SECRETARY AND HIS SPOKESMAN WILL RECEIVE QUESTIONS
ON CURRENT SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST, AND ON THE SECRETARY'S
ON-GOING TRAVEL PLANS. THESE BRUSSELS
QUESTIONS WILL BE NO DIFFERENT FROM WHAT IS ASKED IN WASHINGTON
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ON THESE SUBJECTS.
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